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(b) whether there is any proposal to revive the practice of direct disbursements of grants to such schools by the Department or Education ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir. A few representations were received.

(b) No, Sir.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : In view of the fact that there is delay, will the Government revive the old practice of disbursing grants by educational authorities direct to aided elementary schools, till such time as sufficient funds are placed at the disposal of the Panchayat Unions?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It has been taken up under the provisions of the Act relating to Panchayat Unions. But any complaints received are looked into.

Over-bridge

*164 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer to the Legislative Council Question No. 530, dated 31st January 1956—

(a) the names of places where construction of over-bridges at railway crossings have been recommended to the Central Government; and

(b) in what proportion the costs of construction of such over bridges at level-crossings is borne by the Central and the State Governments?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) The attention of the hon. Memebr is invited to the paper[a] placed on the table of the House and he is informed that in view of the limited funds available for road works, the question of revising the lists of schemes relating to the construction of over/under bridges is under consideration.

(b) According to the existing policy, the entire cost of construction of the over/under bridges and the sub-ways proper on National Highways within municipal limits and roads other than National Highways in towns and cities, i.e., the cost of structure falling within the Railway limits is to be borne by the Railway Board, if the construction of the bridge or sub-way is necessitated entirely due to increase of railway traffic. If however, the construction of the bridge or sub-way is necessitated by increase in road traffic, the cost has to be borne by the Road authority concerned, i.e., State Government or the local body as the case may be. In either case, the cost of construction of the approach roads beyond the railway limits has to be met by the Road authority in full. In regard to construction of over/under bridges in National Highways outside municipal limits, the entire cost has to be met by the Government of India.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 542-544

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Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : In recommending roads to the Central Government for construction of overbridges, have the Government indicated any priority among these roads to be taken up for early construction of overbridges?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMIAH : I do not have the information. A separate question may be put.

Sri K. KAMALAKANNAN : How many more bridges are proposed to be constructed at the railway level crossings in our City of Madras with the aid of the Central Government?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : For a full list the hon. Member may put a separate question.

Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether there are any overbridges to be taken up for construction in the City of Madras under the Third Five-Year Plan?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : There are two or three bridges to be taken up. For exact particulars, the hon. Member may give notice of a separate question.

Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : The cost of construction of the approach roads is to be borne either by the municipality or the Corporation or the State Government. When compared to the total cost of the overbridges, I think it will come to less than 30 or 40 per cent. Will the Government spare some amount of this 30 per cent for some of the urgent overbridges?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : The question is constantly reviewed. Merely because we get an opportunity of having approach roads, we cannot just be adding to the amount. It is not only the forming of the approach roads that the hon. Member wants but we will have to bear a certain percentage of the actual cost of construction.

திரு. கே. ராமதாஸ்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, சென்னை நகரத்தில் பாலங்கள் கட்டும் பொறுப்பு யாரிடத்தில் ஒப்படைக்கப் பட்டிருக்கிறது? சென்னை நகரசபையில் அவை ஒப்படைக்கப் பட்டு அதனால் காலதாமதமாகிறது என்பது உண்மையா?

கனம் திரு. வி. ராமையா: தனியாகக் கேள்வி போட்டால் எல்லா விவரமும் சொல்லமுடியும்.

Cement

*165 *Q.*—Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that recently the quota of cement allotted to dealers was reduced by 50 per cent; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) Does not arise.